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# Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

### **Overview of the State Performance Plan Development**:

#### **Preparation:**

The Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) was developed by the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program (MITP) staff in the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE)/ Division of Special Education/ Early Intervention Services (DSE/EIS), in collaboration with the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) and representatives of local Infants and Toddlers Programs (LITPs).

The Part C database was developed in 2003 to collect and track data to address the priority areas identified by both the State and the Office of Special Education Programs through the Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process. MSDE gathers data for all eligible children in all 24 LITPs in the B/C Data System which is an on-line real-time system. LITP data entry staff enter data gathered from referral and the IFSP for each child served by the LITP. MSDE and LITPs can generate data reports from the data system on individual children or groups of children.

In preparation for the SPP, MSDE gathered and analyzed data relevant to the SPP indicators for all eligible children in all 24 LITPs for the period 7/1/04-12/30/04 and 1/1/05-6/30/05. Data was aggregated to provide statewide data and disaggregated to provide data about individual local programs. Trend data as well as data for the period FFY2004-2005 was included in the analysis.

All data reported in the SPP represent all eligible children for the reporting period in all 24 LITPs. Sampling was not conducted.

#### **Stakeholder Input:**

In September 2005, following the OSEP Summer Institute, MSDE staff shared the SPP requirements and indicators with the SICC. The SICC includes the following membership:

- 8 parent members from various regions across the State, including one parent who is also a physician and several parents who are also affiliated with parent advocacy groups.
- 4 providers of services to young children and families.
- 8 State agency representatives including MSDE (Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, Division of Early Childhood Development, Office of Child Care, and Division of Student and School Services, Homeless Education), the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Human Resources, and the Governor's Office for Children
- 1 individual representing personnel preparation through higher education.
- 1 individual representing the Maryland Insurance Administration.
- 1 ex-officio member representing the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council.

In addition to the stated membership, individuals representing a variety of constituencies across the State attend the monthly SICC meetings and were invited to participate in SICC discussions and development of the SPP.

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In subsequent monthly SICC meetings in October and November, the development of the SPP was the primary focus of the agenda. In October, SICC members assisted in the review of baseline data and the development of targets. Prior to the November meeting, the draft SPP was sent to SICC members. The November SICC meeting was conducted as a work session with members and guests dividing into small groups to draft recommended activities to address the indicators for inclusion in the SPP.

In October 2005, as part of the annual Early Intervention/ Special Education Leadership Conference, MSDE provided a comprehensive overview of the SPP to LITP Directors and outlined the role of local early intervention systems and the IDEA 2004 requirement to publicly report on the performance of each local early intervention system annually. LITP Directors were invited to participate with the SICC in the development of the SPP.

The recommendations from the SICC members and guests and LITP directors were reviewed and incorporated into the SPP.

#### **Reporting to the Public:**

The SPP will be posted on the MSDE website and distributed to the SICC members and guests. It will also be available to anyone upon request.

MSDE reports semi-annually to LITPs on their performance in the federal and State targeted priorities through the local data profile which is also distributed to the participating local public agencies. MSDE will post the local data profiles and the accompanying statewide data reports disaggregated by local program on the MSDE website.

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(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 1**: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner. (20 USC 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner divided by the total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs times 100.

Account for untimely receipt of services.

# Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

Maryland's criteria for "timely" services: Maryland regulations require each local lead agency to coordinate the development of written interagency procedures to implement early intervention services as determined in the Maryland Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) not later than 30 days from the date of parent signature, except as provided un 34 CFR 303.345. [COMAR 13A.13.01.08(C)(1)] In addition, each local lead agency is required to develop procedures to ensure that services are provided to eligible children and their families in a timely manner, pending the resolution of disputes among service providers, consistent with 34 CFR 303.525. [COMAR 13A.13.01.12(g)(1)] All LITPs have submitted policies and procedures which include the timely implementation of early intervention services and dispute resolution as required by COMAR.

Collection of data on timely initiation of services: In response to the federal requirement that the IFSP include the projected dates for initiation of services as soon as possible after IFSP meetings [34 CFR 303.344(f)(1)], LITPs are required to enter the Projected Initiation Date for each service on the IFSP and in the data system. All LITPs enter either the projected date or the actual date, if known, on the IFSP and in the data system. In some cases, LITPs enter a projected date into the data system and then change the date in the data system once the actual date is known

Ensuring sufficient personnel who are knowledgeable and skilled in all geographic areas of the State: In order to ensure there are sufficient numbers of knowledgeable and skilled personnel available to provide early intervention services in all geographic areas of the State, MSDE requires all LITPs to:

• Address capacity issues in the annual Improvement Plan, including targeting State funds for additional service provider positions as needed.

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• Develop an annual CSPD plan to address the training needs of service providers, paraprofessionals, administrators, service coordinators, primary referral sources and families. Plans are developed based on needs assessments, including personnel standards requirements of staff.

As part of the State CSPD Plan and to ensure the availability of ongoing training to all service coordinators and service providers statewide, MSDE developed web-based training on legal requirements and evidence-based IFSP practices (cte.jhu.edu/ecgateway). The project was undertaken jointly with the Johns Hopkins University Center for Technology in Education and Barbara Hanft, a nationally recognized consultant in the field of early intervention. All LITP Directors have received training on the use of the online modules for local professional development.

#### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

#### Maryland's baseline:

# Timely delivery of services for children whose initial IFSPs were developed between 7/1/04 and 6/30/05

Number of eligible children	Number of children with timely delivery of services	Percent of children with timely delivery of services
6502	5574	86%

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

Because data on the timely delivery of services has not been previously requested by OSEP in the manner in which it is currently being required in the SPP, Maryland's Part C data system was not constructed to report the data in that format. Specifically, while the data system does link a specific service for a specific child with the initiation date of that service, it does not link that service with the date of the IFSP meeting which recommended the service.

To obtain the data in the format currently being required by OSEP, MSDE requested that the data system developer construct a special report which links each specific service with its initiation date to determine which services were initiated within 30 days of date of the IFSP meeting which recommended the service. The report aggregates the data for each child and tallies the number of children who received the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner (i.e. no later than 30 days following the IFSP meeting which recommended the service).

The baseline data indicates that services were delivered in a timely manner for 86% of children whose initial IFSPs were developed between 7/1/04 and 6/30/05.

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The data report does not provide information on why the remainder of the children did not receive their services in a timely manner. Analysis of the data on the reasons services are not delivered in a timely manner must be undertaken to separate the family-related reasons from the systemic reasons and to ensure that the family-related reasons do not have a systemic cause.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005	100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention
(2005-2006)	services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.
2006	100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention
(2006-2007)	services on their IFSPs in a timely manner
2007	100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention
(2007-2008)	services on their IFSPs in a timely manner
2008	100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention
(2008-2009)	services on their IFSPs in a timely manner
2009	100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention
(2009-2010)	services on their IFSPs in a timely manner
2010	100% of infants and toddlers with IFSPs will receive the early intervention
(2010-2011)	services on their IFSPs in a timely manner

# Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will review the process for	2005-2006	MSDE staff
collecting data on the timely delivery of		CTE staff
services and identify the components of the		DataLab staff
process that will need to be changed,		
including:		
The IFSP document		
The local process for collecting data		
The data system fields		
The data system reporting mechanism		
MSDE will work with the data system	2005-2006	MSDE staff
developer to refine the data system and		CTE staff
report format in order to gather data on the		DataLab staff
reasons why services are not delivered in a		
timely manner.		
MSDE will complete modifications to the	2005-2006	MSDE staff
components to be changed and provide		CTE staff
training to LITPs on the process of		DataLab staff
collecting the data.		
MSDE will gather and analyze data on the	2006-2011	MSDE staff
reasons services are not delivered in a		
timely manner and develop activities to		
address the systemic issues.		

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MSDE will add the requirement to the Local Data Profile and disseminate to LITPs.	2006-2011	MSDE Staff
MSDE will continue to require LITPs to address timely delivery of services requirements as part of annual Improvement Plans submitted with their local application for funding. LITPs will also continue to be required to report semi-annually on their progress toward achieving the goals on their Improvement Plan.	2006-2011	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE will monitor the timely delivery of services by LITPs through the data system. Data will be gathered at least semi-annually and disaggregated by LITP as part of monitoring and general supervision.	2006-2011	MSDE staff LITPs B/C Data System
MSDE will analyze data gathered on the timely delivery of services and use that analysis as part of decision-making regarding monitoring of LITPs. Technical assistance will continue to be provided to LITPs who are not meeting the requirements.	2006-2011	MSDE staff LITPs B/C Data System
MSDE will require Corrective Actions Plans (CAPs) as part of enforcement actions when an LITP has not corrected non- compliance within one year through an Improvement Plan. CAPs require the LITP to analyze and report data to MSDE at least quarterly and modify activities if the data analysis does not indicate improvement. MSDE will monitor local data via the data system and other sources such as complaints to validate improvement.	2006-2011	MSDE staff LITPs B/C Data System
MSDE will require that local CSPD Plans be aligned with monitoring data.	2006-2011	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE will conduct regional meetings on implementing targeted strategies for professional development based on the web-based tutorial.	2006-2007	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE and LITPs will identify and address local capacity issues related to missed timelines.	2006-2007	MSDE Staff LITPs
MSDE will address statewide capacity	2005-2007	MSDE staff

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issues through activities such as:	LITPs
<ul> <li>Requesting additional State funds</li> </ul>	SICC members
according to the funding formula	
established in the Maryland Infants	
and Toddlers Act of 2002.	
<ul> <li>Identifying and analyzing the local</li> </ul>	
issues impacting service delivery.	
<ul> <li>Exploring service delivery models</li> </ul>	
which include flexibility in the use of	
staff.	
Recruiting additional members for the	
SICC Training and Recruitment	
subcommittee from LITP professional	
development staff.	
<ul> <li>Charging the SICC Training and</li> </ul>	
Recruitment subcommittee with	
exploring what other states are doing	
to recruit and retain service providers.	
<ul> <li>Exploring options available through</li> </ul>	
the National Clearinghouse for	
Professions in Special Education as a	
source of OSEP funded grants to	
students to support recruitment and	
retention.	

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# Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

Overview of the State Performance Plan Development: Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 2**: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children.

#### Measurement:

Percent = # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children divided by the total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs times 100.

## Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

MSDE's targeted focus on the provision of services in natural environments and the requirement that local Infants and Toddlers Programs (LITPs) address the requirement as part of each local Improvement (Targeted Priorities) Plan has resulted in increased numbers of children whose primary setting is a natural environment.

MSDE has continued to emphasize the provision of early intervention services within natural environments and the provision of a justification when a service is not provided in natural environments through required local Improvement (Targeted Priority) Plans which each LITP is required to develop and update annually. The statewide data system includes a mechanism for documenting a justification when a service is not provided in natural environments. LITPs are required to document justification, based on the needs of the child, on the IFSP and to enter that data into the data system.

In addition, beginning 12/30/04, MSDE began to monitor actual justifications to ensure that they are related to the needs of the child, use that analysis to determine level of monitoring of LITPs, and provide technical assistance to LITPs regarding decision making about service settings.

Using the data system, MSDE continues to monitor local primary settings data on a periodic basis to ensure all LITPs are providing services in natural environments and when a service is not provided in a natural environment, a justification has been documented on the IFSP. Data is used to determine level of focused monitoring and MSDE involvement. Refer to General Supervision for a detailed description of the monitoring process.

MSDE verified through review of local Improvement (Targeted Priorities) Plans, Semi-Annual Program Reports, and Final Program Reports that all LITPs (100%) had implemented strategies and activities which address the natural environments requirements.

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### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

Maryland's baseline for 2004-2005: 88% of children are being served in home or community settings based on 6/30/05 snapshot primary settings data report. Of the 12% of children whose services are not primarily provided in natural environments, 99% had a justification documented on the IFSP.

# Number and Percentage of children whose primary setting is Home or Community setting Trend data

Setting	12/1/01 N = 4897	12/1/02 N = 5450	12/1/03 N = 5774	Baseline data 6/30/05
Home	72%	75%	77%	N = 6588 5349 81%
Program for Typically Developing Children/ Community Settings	3%	4%	4%	471 7%
Total Number and percent of children whose primary setting is a NE	76%	79%	81%	5820 88%

# Number and percentage of children who have a justification when a service is not provided in natural environments

	12/1/01	12/1/02	12/1/03	Baseline data 6/30/05 N = 6588
Number and percent of children who have a justification when a service is not provided in NEs	Not available	Not available	Not available	761 99%

#### Discussion of Baseline Data

Based on the Primary Settings data for 6/30/05, a natural environment was the primary service setting for 88% of children. Trend data indicates that annually Maryland increases the number and percentage of children who are receiving services primarily in natural environments.

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The presence of a justification on the IFSP when a service is not provided in natural environments was monitored for the 12% of children whose primary setting was not a natural environment based on the 6/30/05 primary settings report. Based on data in the data system, 99% of the children whose primary setting was not a natural environment had a justification documented on the IFSP. There was no justification provided for 7 children, all served by one LITP. That LITP has since been required to develop a Corrective Action Plan to address the justifications requirement.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	88.5% of active eligible children will receive early intervention services primarily in natural environments (e.g. home and community settings).
2006 (2006-2007)	89% of active eligible children will receive early intervention services primarily in natural environments (e.g. home and community settings).
2007 (2007-2008)	89.5% of active eligible children will receive early intervention services primarily in natural environments (e.g. home and community settings).
2008 (2008-2009)	90% of active eligible children will receive early intervention services primarily in natural environments (e.g. home and community settings).
2009 (2009-2010)	90.5% of active eligible children will receive early intervention services primarily in natural environments (e.g. home and community settings).
2010 (2010-2011)	91% of active eligible children will receive early intervention services primarily in natural environments (e.g. home and community settings).

## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will provide training on how to use the	October 2005	MSDE Staff
web-based IFSP tutorial for staff development		CTE Staff
to all LITP directors as part of the annual		LITP directors
Leadership Conference		
MSDE will continue to require LITPs to	2005 - 2011	MSDE staff
address natural environments requirements as		LITPs
part of annual Improvement Plans submitted		
with their local application for funding. LITPs		
will also continue to be required to report		
semi-annually on their progress toward		
achieving the goals on their Improvement Plan.		

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MSDE will continue to monitor the implementation of natural environments requirements by LITPs through the data system. Technical assistance will continue to be provided to LITPs who are not meeting the requirements.	2005 - 2011	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE will require Corrective Actions Plans (CAPs) as part of enforcement actions when an LITP has not corrected non- compliance within one year through an Improvement Plan. CAPs require the LITP to analyze and report data to MSDE at least quarterly and modify activities if the data analysis does not indicate improvement. MSDE will monitor local data via the data system and other sources such as complaints to validate improvement.	2005 - 2011	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE will continue to analyze information gathered on the justifications for not providing early intervention services in natural environments and use that analysis as part of decision-making regarding monitoring of LITPs.	2005 – 2011	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE will plan and implement training sessions jointly with LITPs on the process of making decisions about the location for services and other areas identified through local data analysis and monitoring. The training will be aligned with best practices as described in the on-line tutorial and will include presentations by experts in the field as well as by LITP staff who are implementing best practices.	2005-2006	MSDE staff LITPs
MSDE and LITPs will identify and address local capacity issues related to service delivery. Refer to activities outline in Indicator #1 which address capacity-building and recruitment/retention.	2005-2007	MSDE Staff LITPs SICC
<ul> <li>MSDE will encourage and assist LITPs to build inclusive opportunities in communities through capacity-building activities such as:</li> <li>Training on how to identify and rally community resources.</li> <li>Training on how to foster interagency collaboration.</li> <li>Offering incentive grants to fund collaboration or other best practices and</li> </ul>	2005 - 2011	MSDE Staff LITPs SICC/ LICC

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to reward LITPs who achieve positive		
outcomes.		
MSDE will explore how to inform referral	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
sources and families of best practices and		CTE Staff
evidence-based practices for providing early		
intervention services in natural environments.		
Possible options include:		
Family Support Services newsletter		
features.		
• Featuring best practices on the website.		
<ul> <li>Include information for families and</li> </ul>		
physicians and other referral sources on		
the <i>ecgateway</i> website.		

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# Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development**: Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 3**: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

(20 USC 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships):
  - a) Percent of infants and toddlers who reach or maintain functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = # of infants and toddlers who reach or maintain functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.
  - b) Percent of infants and toddlers who improve functioning = # of infants and toddlers who improved functioning divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.
  - c) Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = # of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.

If children meet the criteria for a, report them in a. Do not include children reported in a in b or c. If a + b + c does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication):
  - a) Percent of infants and toddlers who reach or maintain functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = # of infants and toddlers who reach or maintain functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.
  - b) Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning = # of infants and toddlers who improved functioning divided by # of infants

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and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.

c) Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = # of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.

If children meet the criteria for a, report them in a. Do not include children reported in a in b or c. If a + b + c does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs:
  - a) Percent of infants and toddlers who reach or maintain functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers = # of infants and toddlers who reach or maintain functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.
  - b) Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning = # of infants and toddlers who improved functioning divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.
  - c) Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = # of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning divided by # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed times 100.

If children meet the criteria for a, report them in a. Do not include children reported in a in b or c. If a + b + c does not sum to 100%, explain the difference.

# Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

MSDE is currently developing an Early Childhood Accountability System (ECAS) for measuring outcomes for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities and their families. Through the ECAS, MSDE will be able to:

- 1) Meet its federal reporting requirements in the Annual Performance Report;
- 2) Evaluate the effectiveness of the State's early intervention and preschool special education systems;
- 3) Improve local service delivery and results; and
- 4) Assist local programs to improve IFSP and IEP decision making and results for individual children.

Through its General Supervision Enhancement Grant (GSEG), MSDE is building a system that is based on child and family change, using a measurement system that is based on valid and reliable assessment tools and instruments, creating a data collection system for aggregating, analyzing, and reporting outcome data, and implementing a professional development system to support full implementation of the ECAS.

MSDE has built a Birth through Five framework for the ECAS, ensuring collaboration at the State and local levels and building on existing partnerships and initiatives in the State to prepare

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young children with disabilities to succeed in school and community life. The system is being developed in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Center for Technology in Education and representatives from LITPs and local school systems, and in consultation with the Early Childhood Outcomes Center. Maryland's ECAS includes specific plans for collecting and reporting outcome data at entry and exit for:

- Infants and toddlers with disabilities based on the collection of present levels of development data from the IFSP process (Part C Indicator #3), and
- 2) Preschool children with disabilities using the Work Sampling System or a comparable early childhood assessment tool.

Prior to the dissemination of the SPP Indicators at the OSEP Summer Institute in August 2005, MSDE made the following decisions in its GSEG planning process:

- 1) To adopt the draft child outcomes recommended by ECO to OSEP; and
- 2) To align the process of collecting child outcome data with the IFSP/IEP process to the maximum extent possible.

With input from staff of LITPs, MSDE reviewed current IFSP procedures and practices related to gathering, collecting, and reporting evaluation and assessment data for infants and toddlers as the basis for developing the Birth-Three outcomes measurement system. Over the last few years, MSDE has focused monitoring, training, and technical assistance on ensuring that LITPs are assessing infants and toddlers in all developmental areas during initial evaluation and assessment and are documenting the present levels of development in all areas on the IFSP and the Part C database. As a result, age-anchored data on present levels of development for infants and toddlers being served through the statewide early intervention system are currently available through the Part C database.

Based on a preliminary review of evaluation and assessment data from the database, discussions with local staff, and consultation with ECO, MSDE decided to embed the outcome measurement system in the IFSP process. MSDE will use the present levels of development data currently collected when a child is referred to an LITP as the status at entry data to be reported in the Annual Performance Report in February 2007. There are several advantages to taking this approach:

- 1) IFSP policies and procedures can be used as a basis for guiding the outcome measurement process:
- 2) Ongoing monitoring, training, and technical assistance to ensure compliance and quality IFSP practices will also support the accuracy and quality of the outcome data; and
- 3) Current Part C database can be modified as needed to report outcome data.

## Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

To prepare for the initial collection and reporting of entry and exit data, MSDE has identified and the following steps for ensuring the validity and reliability of the outcome data:

1) Align the present levels of development with the three OSEP child outcomes.

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(Completed)

- 2) Provide information and opportunity for input to key stakeholder on proposed outcome measurement process. (Ongoing)
- 3) Survey the LITPs to confirm the assessment tools that are used most often to obtain reliable present levels of development. (Completed)
- 4) Survey the LITPs to determine which programs are entering only status at entry data and which are updating and overwriting the entry data with progress data. (Completed)
- Instruct LITPs to discontinue entering progress data into the data system until the database is modified to accept both status at entry and progress data. Local programs were advised to continue collecting the progress data, and maintaining the data in the early intervention record in paper form. (Completed)
- 6) Develop a list of recommended assessment tools and disseminate guidelines for using tools for gathering entry and exit data. (In process)
- 7) Develop the protocol for extracting the present levels of development data from the database and deciding the percentage, number of months, or standard deviation from age level development that will determine if a child enters the program at the same developmental level as their same-age peers. (In process)
- 8) Test the extraction protocol and analyze preliminary results of aggregating entry data for State-level reporting to OSEP. (Winter 2006)
- 9) Validate preliminary results with LITPs through interviews and focus groups. (Spring 2006)
- 10) Modify the Part C database to include screens for entering present levels of development data when a child exits the program. (In process)
- Develop and implement professional development modules for collecting and reporting progress data using the IFSP process and the Part C database. (Spring 2006)
- 12) Aggregate and validate status at entry data for reporting to OSEP. (Summer 06)

Using this approach, MSDE will report status at entry data on all infants and toddlers who have an initial IFSP meeting between November 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006. LITPs will collect evaluation and assessment data when infants and toddlers enter the system and enter the data into the Part C database according to established procedures. MSDE will extract, aggregate, analyze, and report the following entry data in the Annual Performance Report due in February 2007:

- 1) Percentage of children entering at the level of same-age peers, and
- 2) Percentage of children entering at a level below same-age peers.

MSDE will report progress data and targets to OSEP in the Annual Performance Report in February 2008. In 2006, LITPs will collect present levels of development data whenever a child exits the early intervention after participating for at least six months, and enter the data into the modified Part C database. MSDE will extract the exit data and compare the entry and exit data for individual children to report the following progress data to OSEP:

1) Percentage of children who reach or maintain functioning comparable to sameage peers,

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- 2) Percentage of children who improve functioning (not included in #1), and
- 3) Percentage of children who do not improve functioning.

MSDE has involved a broad range of stakeholders throughout the development of Maryland's Early Childhood Accountability System, including LITP administrators and providers, SICC members, and families of children with disabilities. In addition to large group presentations, GSEG project staff have meet with local birth-five teams to obtain practical feedback on the proposed system. Throughout 2005-2006, the GSEG Management Team will continue to working closely with the ECO Center, LITPs, local school systems, and other GSEG States to identify and address issues related to implementation of Maryland's Early Childhood Accountability System.

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005	
(2005-2006)	
2006	
(2006-2007)	
2007	
(2007-2008)	
2008	
(2008-2009)	
2009	
(2009-2010)	
2010	
(2010-2011)	

#### Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

To be determined when data are available.

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### Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 4:** Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

(20 USC 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

- A. Percent = # of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights divided by the # of respondent families participating in Part C times 100.
- B. Percent = # of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs divided by the # of respondent families participating in Part C times 100.
- C. Percent = # of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn divided by the # of respondent families participating in Part C times 100.

### Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

The National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring (NCSEAM) developed a set of survey instruments to measure family perceptions and involvement in the early intervention and special education process. Data obtained by NCSEAM during a National Item Validation Study with a nationally representative sample of families indicated a high reliability and validity of the survey instruments. To meet its federal reporting requirements, MSDE has decided to use the NCSEAM family surveys for families participating in the State's Part C, Part B preschool, and Part B programs.

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In November 2005, MSDE issued a Request for Consultant Services (RFQ #R00R) for the "Comprehensive Design and Implementation of a System to Collect, Validate, Aggregate, Analyze, and Report Parent Outcome Data." This system will allow the State to collect data on the percent of parents participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped their families:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

#### The selected contractor will:

- 1) Use the National Center for Special Education Accountability Monitoring (NCSEAM) Early Intervention Family Survey for parents of children with disabilities ages birth to age three.
- 2) Revise survey items as needed.
- 3) Customize the measurement instrument to include Maryland State specific requirements, including cultural/diversity issues.
- 4) Establish and deliver a sampling plan with an appropriate degree of accuracy and confidence level (95% Confidence with 5% confidence interval per local school system) with a total of 6,276 infants and toddlers, as reported on 10/29/04.
- 5) Mail the survey to every parent in the sample with return reply at no cost to the parent.
- 6) Monitor the collection of surveys to ensure that a sufficient number are received in order to reach the desired confidence level requirement;
- 7) Revise data collection strategy, if necessary, to achieve sampling targets:
- 8) Complete data processing and verify the data from the survey to ensure a high level of data integrity;
- 9) Produce an electronic file that meets all specifications for data analysis;
- 10) Conduct data analysis that serves to address federal and State reporting requirements;
- 11) Generate an online report that includes benchmarks, historical comparisons, goal setting, and action planning; and
- 12) Provide training to DSE/EIS to assist with interpreting the survey data, goal setting, and improvement techniques.

The contract shall begin on December 15, 2005 and conclude on December 14, 2006.

### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

Data on family outcomes will be collected through the NCSEAM Early Intervention family survey in Spring 2006. By August 1, 2006, the selected contractor will submit an electronic data file and written analysis of family survey results that meets the OSEP reporting requirements for the Annual Performance Report to be submitted in February 2007.

The desired level of performance for measurable and rigorous targets and improvement activities will be developed as the results of the survey are reported, analyzed and discussed within the

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Division and with stakeholders. MSDE will integrate the results of the family survey into its continuous improvement monitoring system and develop strategies for strengthening the statewide Family Support Network system. The survey results will provide clear, quantifiable baseline data to utilize in developing action plans for LITPs to enhance the delivery of family-centered early intervention services.

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	
2006 (2006-2007)	
2007 (2007-2008)	
2008 (2008-2009)	
2009 (2009-2010)	
2010 (2010-2011)	

## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

To be determined when data are available.

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# Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

**Indicator 5:** Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to:

- A. Other States with similar eligibility definitions; and
- B. National data. (20 USC 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### **Measurement:**

- A. Percent = # of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs divided by the population of infants and toddlers birth to 1 times 100 compared to the same percent calculated for other States with similar (narrow, moderate or broad) eligibility definitions.
- B. Percent = # of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs divided by the population of infants and toddlers birth to 1 times 100 compared to National data.

### Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

MSDE includes the identification of eligible infants and toddlers as early as possible as part of targeted priorities to be addressed by all local Infants and Toddlers Programs (LITPs). All LITPs are required to develop local Public Awareness Plans annually as part of their local application for funding and to report on public awareness activities at least annually. All LITPs are also required to align their public awareness plan with their Improvement Plan in order to address the State's targeted priorities, which include the identification of all eligible children birth to one and birth to three.

Annually local Public Awareness Plans must include the following activities to identify all eligible children:

• Increase awareness and participation of all primary referral sources, including procedures for accessing the single point of entry and information about referral timelines;

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- Target hospitals, HMOs, pediatricians, and other physicians and medical practitioners to ensure that they are informed about the local early intervention system and procedures for referral to the single point of entry.
- Increase parent awareness and participation in the local early intervention system.
- Coordinate with public awareness activities of other early childhood programs (e.g. Head Start, child care, preschool programs) and provide for communication with local public agencies, private providers, parent and advocacy groups, and other organizations; and
- Increase awareness and participation of minority and underserved communities (e.g. low-income, rural, and ESL families) in the local early intervention system.

MSDE reports annually to LITPs on the percentage of children birth to one and birth to three being served in each local jurisdiction by comparing the number of children served with the birth rate in each local jurisdiction. As a preliminary benchmark, MSDE indicated each LITP should be serving 1% of children who are birth to one in the local jurisdiction and 2% of children who are birth to three. LITPs who do not meet the benchmark are required to develop improvement strategies and activities or provide data that indicates that all eligible children are being served.

MSDE also conducts statewide public awareness activities and supports local public awareness efforts by:

- Providing Public Service Announcements (PSAs) targeted to physicians and families.
- Providing program publications and brochures in multiple languages on the web-site for download or in hard copy. Brochures are distributed to LITPs for distribution as part of local public awareness activities.
- Providing ongoing outreach efforts to primary referral sources.

## Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

Based on 2004 data provided by OSEP, Maryland was serving 1.22% of children birth to one.

- A. Of the 27 states classified by OSEP as having a broad eligibility definition, Maryland ranked 11th.
- B. Based on the 2004 data provided by OSEP for all states, Maryland ranked 0.32% above the national baseline.

# Eligible children birth to one as a percentage of all children birth to one in the State Trend data

Based on point in time (snapshot) data and Maryland Vital Statistics data

	12/1/03	10/29/04*
# births	73462	75601
# served	763	926
%	1.04%	1.22%

<sup>\* 2003</sup> Number of births

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

Trend data indicates that the number of children birth to one served in Maryland increases annually. In 2004, MSDE changed the child count date from 12/1 to the last Friday in October (for 2004, 10/29). The number served increased despite the shorter time frame.

MSDE tracks the percentage of children from birth to one served statewide and by each LITP annually by using Maryland Vital Statistics data for the most recent year for which birth data is available. MSDE has set a State target for LITPs to serve *at least* 1% of the number of children between birth and age one in the jurisdiction. LITPs that are not serving at least 1% of their birth to age one population are required to analyze their referral data and develop and implement strategies to increase the number of children identified and served before age one, including targeting underserved populations in local Public Awareness Plans.

MSDE is analyzing referral data for the period 7/1/04 - 6/30/05 for children who were referred between the ages of birth to one. Initial targets for increasing the statewide percentage of children from birth to age one are based on data indicating that all LITPS are serving at least 1%.

### Percent of referrals of children age birth to one by referral source

Children referred 7/1/04-6/30/05

Referral source	Percent of total birth to
	one referrals
Parent	38.96%
Hospital	27.93%
Local Health Dept.	8.73%
Local Dept. Soc. Services	7.61%
Physician	6.51%
Other Private Professional	3.03%
Other Public Agency	1.94%
Local Educ. Agency	1.49%
Foster Parent	1.36%
Other	0.78%
Private Provider	0.73%
Other Family Member	0.71%
Audiologist	0.18%
Child Care Provider	0.03%

Total Number of Referrals	3842
Percent of Total Birth to	35%
Three Referrals	

The majority of referrals of children birth to one come from parents and hospitals. Local Health Departments, Departments of Social Services, and Physicians are the next greatest source of referrals for children birth to one. Greater than one-third of the total number of referrals for the referral period were children between the ages of birth and one.

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FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to one with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 1.33% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2006 (2006-2007)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to one with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 1.50% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2007 (2007-2008)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to one with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 1.50% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2008 (2008-2009)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to one with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 1.50% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2009 (2009-2010)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to one with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 1.50% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2010 (2010-2011)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to one with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 1.50% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.

# Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will develop a predefined report that	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
links referral source to age at referral so that		DataLab staff
age at referral data can be analyzed on a		CTE Staff
regular basis.		
MSDE will continue to monitor the local	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
implementation of child find requirements		LITPs
through the data system and technical		B/C Data System
assistance will be provided as needed.		
Corrective actions will be used when		
necessary.		
MSDE will continue to analyze data on the	2005-2011	MSDE Staff

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numbers of children served by LITPs and use		LITPs
that analysis as part of decision making		
regarding monitoring of LITPs.		
MSDE will continue to require LITPs to develop and implement annual data-driven Public Awareness Plans that are aligned with local Improvement Plans and that target the identification of all eligible children birth to one and birth to three. LITPs are required to report semi-annually on their progress toward achieving the goals on their Improvement Plans.	2005-2011	MSDE Staff LITPs
MSDE and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will implement a mechanism to exchange data from the Part C and Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS) databases to ensure that infants diagnosed with hearing loss as a result of newborn hearing screening are referred for early intervention as soon as possible.	2006	MSDE Staff DHMH Staff
MSDE will review public awareness	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
publications to ensure inclusion of underserved groups identified in IDEA 2004.		
MSDE will require LITPs and local	February 2006	MSDE Staff
Departments of Social Services to jointly		Dept. Human
develop and implement local policies and		Resources
procedures to ensure that infants and toddlers who are victims of child abuse and neglect or		LITPs LDSSs
drug involvement and are suspected of having		LDSSS
a developmental delay or disability are referred		
to local Infants and Toddlers Programs in		
accordance with CAPTA and IDEA 2004.		
MSDE will disseminate the Physician's Guide	2005-2011	MSDE staff
to Early Intervention to physicians and other		
medical personnel statewide.		
MSDE will require LITPs to analyze data on	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
age at referral and reason for referrals from		LITPs
hospitals and physicians to determine if		
referrals might have been made earlier and to		
identify which referral sources are not referring		
children as early as possible. LITPs will target		
those referral sources as part of local		
Improvement and Public Awareness Plans  MSDE will review research on the	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
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demographic factors that influence child		SICC Outreach
identification in the early intervention system		Committee
and the recommended practices for states to		
improve child find outcomes and revise State		
targets based on the research and		
recommended practices.		
The Outreach Subcommittee of the State	2005-2007	MSDE Staff
Interagency Coordinating Council will target		SICC Outreach
activities based on research and best practices		Committee
and assist MSDE in implementing		
recommended child find activities. Possible		
activities include:		
<ul> <li>Conducting outreach to faith-based</li> </ul>		
organizations.		
<ul> <li>Exploring how Healthy Start nurses are</li> </ul>		
aligning activities with LITPs.		
<ul> <li>Expanding DSS involvement with an</li> </ul>		
emphasis on underserved populations		
identified in IDEA 2004, including		
children who are victims of abuse and		
neglect.		
<ul> <li>Identifying and targeting homeless</li> </ul>		
shelters statewide for public awareness		
activities.		
<ul> <li>Ensuring that health care workers and</li> </ul>		
parents have access to the Growth and		
Developmental Milestones brochure to		
assist them in identifying children who		
should be referred to the LITP.		
Ensuring local audiologists are referring		
children with hearing loss.		

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# Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

**Indicator 6**: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to:

- A. Other States with similar eligibility definitions; and
- B. National data.

(20 USC 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

- A. Percent = # of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs divided by the population of infants and toddlers birth to 3 times 100 compared to the same percent calculated for other States with similar (narrow, moderate or broad) eligibility definitions.
- B. Percent = # of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs divided by the population of infants and toddlers birth to 3 times 100 compared to National data.

#### **Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:**

See overview for Indicator #5.

#### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

Based on 2004 data provided by OSEP, Maryland was serving 2.78% of children birth to three.

- A. Of the 27 states classified by OSEP as having a broad eligibility definition, Maryland ranked 13th.
- B. Based on the 2004 data provided by OSEP for all states, Maryland ranked 0.54% above the national baseline.

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# Eligible children birth to three as a percentage of all children birth to three in the State Trend data

Based on point in time (snapshot) data

	12/1/03	10/29/04
# births*	222035	225878
# served	5774	6276
0/0	2.6%	2.78%

<sup>\* 2000 - 2003</sup> Number of births

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

Trend data indicates that the number of children birth to three served in Maryland increases annually. In 2004, MSDE changed the child count date from 12/1 to the last Friday in October (for 2004, 10/29). The number served increased despite the shorter time frame.

MSDE tracks the percentage of children from birth to age three served statewide and by each LITP annually by using Maryland Vital Statistics data for the most recent three years for which birth data is available. MSDE has set a State target for LITPs to serve *at least* 2% of the number of children between birth and age three in the jurisdiction. LITPs that are not serving at least 2% of their birth to age three population are required to analyze their referral data and develop and implement strategies to increase the number of children identified and served, including targeting underserved populations in local Public Awareness Plans.

MSDE is analyzing referral data for the period 7/1/04 - 6/30/05. Initial targets for increasing the statewide percentage of children served are based on data indicating that all LITPS are serving at least 2% of their birth to age three population. Refer to Indicator #5 for Birth to One referral data.

# Percent of referrals of children age one to two by referral source

Children referred 7/1/04-6/30/05

Referral Source	Percent of total
	Age 1-2 referrals
Parent	77%
Physician	7%
Local Dept. Social Services	3.45%
Local Health Dept.	2.66%
Hospital	1.89%
Other Family Member	1.84%
Other Public Agency	1.35%
Local Educ. Agency	1.24%
Other Private Professional	1.00%
Foster Parent	0.93%
Other	0.58%
Private Provider	0.33%
Child Care Provider	0.16%
Audiologist	0.05%

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Total Number of One to Two Referrals	4287
Percent of Total Birth to Three Referrals	39%

# Percent of referrals of children age two to three by referral source

Children referred 7/1/04-6/30/05

Referral Source	Percent of total Age 2-3 referrals
Parent	78.39%
Physician	6.00%
Local Dept. Social Services	4.04%
Local Health Dept.	2.11%
Other Family Member	1.89%
Other Public Agency	1.79%
Other Private Professional	1.40%
Local Education Agency	1.23%
Hospital	1.02%
Foster Parent	0.77%
Other	0.60%
Child Care Provider	0.42%
Private Provider	0.21%
Audiologist	0.14%

Total Number of Two to Three Referrals	2850
Percent of Total Birth to Three Referrals	26%

For children who are referred between the ages of one and two and two and three, parents are the primary referral source. Physicians, local Departments of Social Services, and local Health Departments are the next greatest sources of referrals. The greatest percentage of total referrals were children referred between the ages of one and two. Children between the ages of two and three were the smallest percentage of total referrals.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 2.88% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.

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2006 (2006-2007)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 2.88% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2007 (2007-2008)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 2.88% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2008 (2008-2009)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 2.88% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2009 (2009-2010)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 2.88% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.
2010 (2010-2011)	The percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs will be equal to or greater than 2.88% of the infants and toddlers of the same age in the general population.

# Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will develop a predefined report that	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
links referral source to age at referral so that age		DataLab staff
at referral data can be analyzed on a regular		CTE Staff
basis.		
MSDE will monitor local implementation of	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
child find requirements through the data system		LITPs
and provide technical assistance as needed.		
Corrective actions will be used when necessary.		
MSDE will analyze data on the numbers of	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
children served by LITPs and use that analysis as		LITPs
part of decision making regarding monitoring of		
LITPs		
MSDE will continue to require LITPs to develop	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
and implement annual data-driven Public		LITPs
Awareness Plans that are aligned with local		
Improvement Plans and that target the		
identification of all eligible children birth to one		
and birth to three. LITPs are required to report		
semi-annually on their progress toward achieving		
the goals on Improvement Plans.		

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MSDE and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will implement a mechanism to exchange data from the Part C and Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS) databases to ensure that infants diagnosed with hearing loss as a result of newborn hearing screening are referred for early intervention as soon as possible.	2005-2007	MSDE Staff DHMH Staff
MSDE will review public awareness publications to ensure inclusion of underserved groups identified in IDEA 2004	12/2005	MSDE Staff
MSDE will require LITPs and local Departments of Social Services to jointly develop and implement local policies and procedures to ensure that infants and toddlers who are victims of child abuse and neglect or drug involvement and are suspected of having a developmental delay or disability are referred to local Infants and Toddlers Programs in accordance with CAPTA and IDEA 2004.	February 2006	MSDE Staff Dept. Human Resources Staff LITPs LDSSs
MSDE will disseminate the Physician's Guide to Early Intervention to physicians and other medical personnel statewide.	2005-2011	MSDE
MSDE will require LITPs to analyze data on age at referral and reason for referrals from hospitals and physicians to determine if referrals might have been made earlier and to identify which referral sources are not referring children as early as possible. LITPs will target those referral sources as part of local Improvement and Public Awareness Plans.	2005- 2011	MSDE Staff LITPs
MSDE will review research on the demographic factors that influence child identification in the early intervention system and the recommended practices for states to improve child find outcomes and set State targets based on the research and recommended practices.	2005-2006	MSDE Staff SICC Outreach subcommittee
The Outreach Subcommittee of the State Interagency Coordinating Council will target activities based on research and best practices and assist MSDE in implementing recommended child find activities. Possible activities include:  • Conducting outreach to faith-based	2005-2007	MSDE Staff SICC Outreach subcommittee

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organizations.		
<ul> <li>Exploring how Healthy Start nurses are</li> </ul>		
aligning activities with LITPs.		
<ul> <li>Expanding DSS involvement with an</li> </ul>		
emphasis on underserved populations		
identified in IDEA 2004.		
<ul> <li>Identifying and targeting homeless shelters</li> </ul>		
statewide for public awareness activities.		
<ul> <li>Ensuring that health care workers and</li> </ul>		
parents have access to the Growth and		
Developmental Milestones brochure to		
assist them in identifying children who		
should be referred to the LITP.		
<ul> <li>Ensuring that local audiologists are</li> </ul>		

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referring children with hearing loss.

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# Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

**Indicator 7:** Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.

(20 USC 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = # of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline divided by # of eligible infants and toddlers evaluated and assessed times 100.

Account for untimely evaluations.

### **Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:**

In 2003, MSDE implemented a new data system which allowed electronic collection of 45-day timeline data for all eligible children for the first time. Based on the results of the data, MSDE emphasized the 45-day timeline requirement as part of the State's targeted priorities and gathered and reported 45-day timeline data for each local Infants and Toddlers Program (LITP) as part of monitoring. LITPs were then required to address the 45-day timeline requirement as part of local Improvement Plans. As a result, MSDE has seen steady improvement in compliance with the timeline requirement.

In 2004, MSDE modified the data system to allow for gathering and reporting data on the reasons the timeline was missed for individual children. By 12/30/04, MSDE was able to report the percentage of children for whom the 45-day timeline was met or whether there was a documented family-related reason or a systemic reason for missed timelines. When family-related reasons were taken into account, compliance with the requirement improved significantly.

#### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

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Maryland's baseline data for 2004 - 2005: Evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within the 45-day timeline or there was a documented family-related reason for the missed timeline for 85% of children.

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

Number and percentage of children for whom evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within the 45-day timeline.

Based on referral date range

Referral date range	1/1/03-6/30/03	7/1/03-12/31/03	1/1/04-6/30/04	Baseline Data* 6/30/05 N=3229
Percentage within timeline	61%	62%	67%	2744 85%

<sup>\*</sup> Percentage includes the number within timelines or late due to a family-related reason.

#### Analysis of baseline data

Referral date range	Baseline Data 6/30/05 N = 3229
Number and percent within timeline or late due to a family-related reason	2744 85%
Number and percent within the timeline	2211 68%
Number and percent of late timelines due to family related reasons	533 17%
Number and percent of late timelines due to systemic reasons	485 15%

Data was gathered for all children referred during the reporting period in all LITPs. The data was aggregated to provide statewide data and disaggregated to provide information about the performance of individual LITPs.

The Baseline data period was the first time in which data about the reasons for missed timelines was available for reporting. The data system includes a standard choice list for family-related reasons. LITPs also have the option of entering other reasons for the missed timeline in a text box. When family-related reasons were taken into account, compliance with the timeline requirement improved considerably over the previous reporting period.

An analysis of the data on missed timelines indicates that limited system capacity is the primary systemic reason for missed timelines in at least three (3) LITPs. LITPs with limited system capacity report difficulty in finding and/ or hiring speech/language pathologists.

Refer to Indicator 9, General Supervision, for monitoring data in this area.

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FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	Evaluation and assessment and the initial IFSP meeting are conducted within 45 days of the date of referral for 100% of eligible children
2006 (2006-2007)	Evaluation and assessment and the initial IFSP meeting are conducted within 45 days of the date of referral for 100% of eligible children.
2007 (2007-2008)	Evaluation and assessment and the initial IFSP meeting are conducted within 45 days of the date of referral for 100% of eligible children.
2008 (2008-2009)	Evaluation and assessment and the initial IFSP meeting are conducted within 45 days of the date of referral for 100% of eligible children.
2009 (2009-2010)	Evaluation and assessment and the initial IFSP meeting are conducted within 45 days of the date of referral for 100% of eligible children.
2010 (2010-2011)	Evaluation and assessment and the initial IFSP meeting are conducted within 45 days of the date of referral for 100% of eligible children.

# Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will continue to require LITPs to address	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
the 45-day timeline requirement as part of annual		LITPs
Improvement Plans submitted with their local		
application for funding. LITPs will also continue		
to be required to report semi-annually on their		
progress toward achieving the goals on their		
Improvement Plan.		
MSDE will continue to monitor the	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
implementation of the 45-day timeline requirement		Data system
by LITPs through the data system and provide		
semi-annual local data profiles. Technical		
assistance will continue to be provided to LITPs		

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who are not meeting the requirements.		
MSDE will require Corrective Actions Plans	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
(CAPs) as part of enforcement actions when an		LITPs
LITP has not corrected non- compliance within		
one year through an Improvement Plan. CAPs		
require the LITP to analyze and report data to		
MSDE at least quarterly and modify activities if		
the data analysis does not indicate improvement.		
MSDE will monitor local data via the data system		
and other sources such as complaints to validate		
improvement.		
MSDE will analyze data on missed timelines to	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
distinguish family-related reasons from systemic		
reasons. Family-related reasons will be reviewed		
to ensure there is not a systemic cause for the		
family-related delay		
MSDE will provide technical assistance to LITPs	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
to assist in analyzing service delivery models as a		LITPs
possible systemic barrier to meeting timelines.		On-line Early
		Childhood tutorial
MSDE and LITPs will identify and address local	2005-2007	MSDE Staff
capacity issues related to missed timelines. Refer		LITPs
to activities outline in Indicator #1 which address		
capacity-building and recruitment/ retention.		

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## Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

**Indicator 8**: Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:

- A. IFSPs with transition steps and services
- B. Notification to LEA, if child potentially eligible for Part B: and
- C. Transition conference, if child potentially eligible for Part B.

(20 USC 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

- A. Percent = # of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services divided by # of children exiting Part C times 100.
- B. Percent = # of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where notification to the LEA occurred divided by the # of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B times 100.
- C. Percent = # of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the transition conference occurred divided by the # of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B times 100.

## **Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:**

The transition timeline was identified in the previous APR as a systemic issue. As a result, MSDE Part C and Part B staff jointly reviewed the data including the challenges and barriers identified by local programs and determined that State policies and procedures needed to be revised to eliminate the requirement that the transition planning meeting be an IEP meeting and to clarify the Part C and Part B responsibilities throughout the transition process, consistent with federal requirements.

MSDE Part C and Part B staff jointly revised State policies and procedures and disseminated them to local school systems (LSSs) and local Infants and Toddlers Programs (LITPs) in March 2004. A joint meeting of State Part C and B staff and LSSs and LITPs was conducted prior to the

SPP Te	emplate -	Part C	(3)
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implementation date to present and discuss the revised policies and procedures. Revised local policies and procedures were due to MSDE by September 2004, and new State policies and procedures went into effect October 25, 2004.

MSDE revised the IFSP to align with the new policies and procedures and worked with data system developers to align the data system with the new IFSP.

In March 2005, following the implementation of the revised transition policies and procedures, MSDE contacted LITPs whose transition data was not showing improvement to ensure that the revised policies and procedures as well as revised data entry procedures were clearly understood. Based on information gathered from selected LITPs, MSDE determined that not all LITPs were entering Transition Planning Meeting dates into the data system as instructed. MSDE immediately re-issued the instructions for completing the IFSP and entering the Transition Planning Meeting into the data system to all LITP directors and data entry staff, and provided additional instructions to selected LITPs through face-to-face technical assistance. In addition MSDE reviewed transition timeline data and procedures with LITP Directors at the Annual Local Director's Meeting on April 5, 2005.

In the previous APR, Maryland reported that IFSPs included transition steps to be taken to support the transition of the child and family from Part C. All LITPs are required to include transition steps on the IFSP when the child turns two years of age.

Because the revised State policies and procedures were not implemented until October 25, 2004, the data on the percentage of transition planning meetings that were competed within the timelines reported to OSEP in the last APR did not accurately reflect the impact of the revised policies and procedures. In the letter of response to the APR, OSEP required Maryland to report current data on the Transition Planning Meeting timeline requirement.

#### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

Maryland's baseline data for 2004-2005:

- A. All IFSPs reviewed as part of monitoring activities conducted in 2000 2004 contained transition steps and services.
- B. Between 1/1/05 and 6/30/05, LSSs were notified of 95% (1574) of children who transitioned during the time period
- C. Between 1/1/05 and 6/30/05, a transition planning meeting was held within the timelines or there was a family-related reason for the missed timeline for 69% of children who transitioned.

#### Number/ percentage of children with timely transition planning meetings Trend data

	12/1/02-12/1/03 N=3237	12/1/03-12/1/04* N=3283	1/1/05 - 6/30/05* N= 1663
Number and percent of	789	1562	1144
meetings within	24%	48%	69%
timeline			

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#### Analysis of the data

	Baseline Data 1/1/05 – 6/30/05 N=1663	Preliminary data 7/1/05 – 10/30/05 N=1178
Number and percent of meetings	1144	956
within timeline or late due to	69%	81%
family-related reasons.  a) Number and percent of meetings within the timeline	a) 822 49%	a) 805 68%
b) Number and percent of meetings not within timelines due to family-related reasons	b) 322 19%	b) 151 13%
Meeting held prior to the child's	430	142
third birthday but not within timeline.	26%	12%
No meeting date documented in	89	80
the data system.	5%	7%

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

- A. LITPs are required to develop transition outcomes which include the steps necessary to assist the child and family in transition from Part C to Part B and other community programs. Data gathered between 2000 2004 from the review of early intervention records and interviews with families and service providers as part of on-site monitoring activities has confirmed that transition outcomes are included on the IFSP and do contain the steps and services necessary to assist the child and family in transition from Part C.
- B. Child level data that documents that LSSs have been informed that the child is exiting Part C and is potentially eligible for Part B has not been previously reported to OSEP. All LITPs have policies and procedures which require them to notify the LSS of the children who are exiting Part C and are potentially eligible for Part B. Because Part C does not determine which child are or are not "potentially" eligible for Part B, LSSs are to be notified of all children exiting Part C. LSS representatives attend all transition planning meetings. Between 1/1/05 and 6/30/05, LSSs were notified of 95% (1574) of children who transitioned during the time period. Because there is no documentation of a transition planning meeting being held for 5% (89) of children who transitioned during the time period, it is not known if the LSSs were notified of those children.
- C. Data was gathered for all children who transitioned during the reporting period in all LITPs. The data was aggregated to provide statewide data and disaggregated to provide information about the performance of individual LITPs. Baseline data indicated that a transition planning meeting was held within the timelines or with a family-related reason for the missed timeline for 69% of children who turned three between 1/1/05 and 6/30/05. An additional 26%

<sup>\*</sup> Percentage includes the number within timelines or late due to a family-related reason.

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of transition planning meetings were held prior to the child's third birthday but not within the timeline. No meeting was documented in the data system for 5% (89) of children. Preliminary data for the period 6/30/05 - 10/30/05 indicates continued improvement. A meeting was held within the timelines or there was a family-related reason for the missed timeline for 81% of children.

LITPs are required to enter the reasons for missed timelines into the data system. MSDE is able to review those reasons to analyze the family-related and systemic reasons for missed timelines. Preliminary analysis of the systemic reasons for missed timelines indicates that timely data entry and Part B staff capacity primarily account for noncompliance in this area. LITPs reported that meetings were postponed until Part B staff was available to attend, often resulting in the meeting being held outside the timeline.

Further analysis indicates that not conducting transition planning meetings within timelines was occurring in selected local programs, rather than statewide. Data was tracked monthly during the year following the implementation of the revised statewide polices and procedures. Refer to Indicator #9, General Supervision, for monitoring data in this area.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target	
0005	100% of children exiting Part C receive timely transition planning to support	
2005	the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by	
(2005-2006)	their third birthday including:	
	A. IFSPs with transition steps and services B. Notification to LEA: and	
	1 6 6	
2006	100% of children exiting Part C receive timely transition planning to support	
2006	the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by	
(2006-2007)	their third birthday including:	
	A. IFSPs with transition steps and services	
	B. Notification to LEA: and	
	C. Transition planning meeting within the timeline.	
0007	100% of children exiting Part C receive timely transition planning to support	
2007	the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by	
(2007-2008)	their third birthday including:	
	A. IFSPs with transition steps and services	
	B. Notification to LEA: and	
	C. Transition planning meeting within the timeline.	
	100% of children exiting Part C receive timely transition planning to support	
2008	the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by	
(2008-2009)	their third birthday including:	
	A. IFSPs with transition steps and services	
	B. Notification to LEA: and	
	C. Transition planning meeting within the timeline.	

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	100% of children exiting Part C receive timely transition planning to support
2009	the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by
(2009-2010)	their third birthday including:
	A. IFSPs with transition steps and services
	B. Notification to LEA: and
	C. Transition planning meeting within the timeline.
	100% of children exiting Part C receive timely transition planning to support
2010	the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by
(2010-2011)	their third birthday including:
	A. IFSPs with transition steps and services
	B. Notification to LEA: and
	C. Transition planning meeting within the timeline.

## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE conducted joint	October 2005	MSDE Staff
training for LITPs and LSSs		LITP Directors
on transition requirements at		LSS Preschool Coordinators
the annual Leadership		CTE Staff
Conference		Barbara Hanft
MSDE will immediately	December 2005- January 2006	MSDE Staff
clarify statewide transition		LITP Directors
policies and procedures with		LSS Preschool Coordinators
LITPs to:		
• Emphasize Part C's		
responsibility to make		
every effort to schedule		
the meeting at a time		
that is mutually		
agreeable to the family		
and local school system		
representatives, but to		
hold the meeting within		
the timelines regardless		
of Part B's availability		
to participate.		
<ul> <li>Emphasize with local</li> </ul>		
school systems Part B's		
responsibility to		
participate in the		
transition planning		
meetings.		
<ul> <li>Review and clarify</li> </ul>		
procedures to ensure a		
smooth transition when		

## SPP Template - Part C (3)

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a child is referred to Part C shortly before the child's third birthday.		
MSDE will continue to require LITPs to address the transition requirements as part of annual Improvement Plans submitted with their local application for funding. LITPs will also continue to be required to report semi-annually on their progress toward achieving the goals on their Improvement Plan.	2005-2011	MSDE Staff LITP Directors
MSDE will continue to monitor the implementation of the transition requirements by LITPs through the data system and provide semi-annual local data profiles. Technical assistance will continue to be provided to LITPs who are not meeting the requirements. When appropriate, MSDE Parts C and B will conduct joint monitoring of LITPs and LSSs to address compliance.	2005-2011	MSDE Part s C and B Staff B/C Data System
MSDE will require Corrective Actions Plans (CAPs) as part of enforcement actions when an LITP has not corrected non-compliance within one year through an Improvement Plan. CAPs require the LITP to analyze and report data to MSDE at least quarterly and modify activities if the data analysis does not indicate improvement. MSDE will monitor local data via the data system and other sources such as complaints to validate improvement.	2005-2006	MSDE Staff LITPs

## SPP Template - Part C (3)

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MSDE will identify the LITPs who are not entering data in a timely manner and require improvement plans address timely data entry. MSDE will consider whether timelines should be set for the timely data entry.	2005-2011	MSDE Staff B/C data system
MSDE will analyze data on missed timelines to distinguish family-related reasons from systemic reasons. Family-related reasons will be reviewed to ensure there is not a systemic cause for the family-related delay.	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
MSDE and LITPs will identify and address local capacity issues related to missed timelines. Refer to activities outline in Indicator #1 which address capacity-building, recruitment/ retention, and professional development.	2005-2007	MSDE Staff LITP Directors
MSDE will review the proposed mechanisms for collecting data on eligibility for Part B and IEP in effect by third birthday to ensure all data that is needed by Part C and Part B is included.	2005-2006	MSDE Parts C and B Staff CTE Staff DataLab Staff
MSDE will implement the Early Childhood Transition module of the web-based tutorial.	2005-2006	MSDE Staff CTE Staff
MSDE will conduct regional meetings for LITPs, LSS Preschool Coordinators, and Family Support Services staff to:  • Emphasize the joint Part C and B responsibilities for smooth transition; • Address professional development based on the tutorial;	2005-2006	MSDE Staff LITP Staff LSS Preschool Coordinators Family Support Services Staff

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<ul> <li>Share best practices/ what is working;</li> <li>Share current data and identify continuing challenges and barriers.</li> </ul>		
MSDE will update the	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
transition handbook,		
"Stepping Ahead to Success",		
disseminate it and post it on		
the website.		

SPP Tem	plate -	Part C	(3)
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## Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 9:** General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

- A. Percent of noncompliance related to monitoring priority areas and indicators corrected within one year of identification:
  - a. # of findings of noncompliance made related to priority areas.
  - b. # of corrections completed as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

Percent = b divided by a times 100.

For any noncompliance not corrected within one year of identification, describe what actions, including technical assistance and/or enforcement that the State has taken.

- B. Percent of noncompliance related to areas not included in the above monitoring priority areas and indicators corrected within one year of identification:
  - a. # of findings of noncompliance made related to such areas.
  - # of corrections completed as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

Percent = b divided by a times 100.

For any noncompliance not corrected within one year of identification, describe what actions, including technical assistance and/or enforcement that the State has taken.

- C. Percent of noncompliance identified through other mechanisms (complaints, due process hearings, mediations, etc.) corrected within one year of identification:
  - # of EIS programs in which noncompliance was identified through other mechanisms.

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b. # of findings of noncompliance made.

c. # of corrections completed as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

Percent = c divided by b times 100.

For any noncompliance not corrected within one year of identification, describe what actions, including technical assistance and/or enforcement that the State has taken.

### Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

**Development of Maryland's monitoring system:** In 1999 – 2000, the Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program developed a new monitoring system to be compatible with OSEP's Continuous Improvement Monitoring Program and MSDE's Part B system, Monitoring for Continuous Improvement and Results (MCIR). Part C's data-driven MCIR process is fully implemented, and includes:

- Initial comprehensive monitoring of each Local Infants and Toddlers Program (LITP), which includes public and private providers and is responsible for carrying out the Part C requirements in the local jurisdiction:
  - Local self-assessment;
  - On-site data collection and validation through interviews with families, service providers, administrators and interagency partners, and review of records;
  - o Issuance of a written monitoring report by MSDE/ MITP; and
  - o Local improvement plan development;
- On-going collection and analysis of data/ data profiles;
- Targeted Priorities tied to funding;
- Review of complaints and findings; and
- Multi-level focused monitoring based on selected State and local performance indicators (e.g. Desk audit, periodic monitoring and TA, active monitoring and TA.

**Shift to continuous monitoring:** In 2000, MSDE/MITP developed and implemented a system for continuous monitoring, including monitoring instruments and procedures, focused on compliance and0 designed to form a baseline profile for each Local Infants and Toddlers Program (LITP). The instruments and procedures have been revised and refined over several years to address increased demands for accountability. The instruments and procedures include:

- A self-assessment document which includes indicators based on federal and State regulations and requirements;
- On-site activities including record reviews and interviews with families, service
  coordinators, service providers, administrators and interagency partners conducted by an
  interagency team, including, if possible, a parent from MSDE office or SICC and other
  SICC members;
- Opportunity for LITPs to highlight best practices;
- Review of data available from MSDE database and tracking system based on specific indicators;

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- Revision of the local Early Intervention Plan and funding application submitted by LITPs to be more data-driven and related to identified program improvement issues;
- Review of LITP's local policies and procedures with revisions required;
- Review of Semi-Annual and Annual Program Reports submitted by LITPs;
- Written reports based on on-site activities, data analysis, and required revisions to local applications.
- Semi-annual local data profiles based on a variety of sources of data which are used to
  identify the level of State intervention and/ or technical assistance required for local
  programs.
- Follow-up monitoring and/ or technical assistance, as needed.

Initially, MSDE conducted comprehensive on-site monitoring of all 24 LITPs using the newly developed process. SICC interagency partners and parents were invited to participate on on-site monitoring teams and participated whenever possible. Local ICC members, interagency staff, families, and providers were interviewed as part of on-site monitoring activities

Completion of data system and shift to monitoring through semi-annual local data profiles: With the completion of a new web-based data system which provides ready access to local data, MSDE/MITP shifted to a process which involves generating local data profiles on a semi-annual basis for all LITPs. MSDE uses the data profiles to identify LITPs for additional monitoring activities including on-site activities, as needed. Since the web-based system houses real-time data, MSDE can monitor the performance of each LITP with regard to MSDE's targeted priorities and other areas of compliance on an as-needed basis. MSDE gathers data not available through the data system through a variety of other mechanisms such as record review, complaint and hearing findings, surveys, interviews, and other on-site activities, as needed. MSDE then determines and implements technical assistance, focused monitoring, and enforcement activities accordingly.

MSDE selects all LITPs for semi-annual data collection and profiling, which includes trend data from the data system, complaints and hearings, program reports, and other sources. MSDE analyzes the data profiles every 6 months or more often, if needed, to identify LITPs which are not in compliance or making acceptable progress in one or more areas.

#### MSDE identifies LITPs for:

- Desk Audit (for those making acceptable progress);
- Periodic Monitoring, TA and Follow-up (for those not making acceptable progress in one area or slow progress in more than one area); or
- Active Monitoring, TA and Follow-up for those not making acceptable progress in more than one area.

In all cases, regardless of the monitoring category, MSDE periodically verifies data through record reviews and other mechanisms for all LITPs. At any point in time, MSDE may conduct interviews, surveys and other on-site activities as needed.

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**Data reported in the local data profiles and in the SPP represent all children receiving services in all LITPs.** MSDE gathers data from each individual LITP on each specific State priority to identify statewide systemic issues. Because the data is entered into the data system in the same format by each LITP, MSDE can aggregate the data to provide a statewide picture. The data can also be aggregated by region, size of LITP, or other variable if necessary to increase understanding of the results. MSDE uses the data system to drill down into data, including child-level data, to further explore and understand the data being reported, to identify systemic issues within an individual LITP, and to identify statewide priorities. Data from other sources is also incorporated in the analysis.

**Improvement Planning:** MSDE provides State and local monitoring data, including trend data, to LITPs and requires that the information be used to support local improvement plans. MSDE uses the data in the development and tracking of statewide improvement activities as described in the APR and shares data with the SICC to assist the SICC in identifying annual priorities.

**Interventions and Enforcement:** Although supervision, monitoring, and technical assistance are MSDE's primary strategies for ensuring improvement, MSDE identifies and imposes enforcement actions when necessary.

<u>Corrective Action Plans</u>: MSDE requires an LITP develop a Corrective Action Plan when strategies and activities implemented as part of the local Improvement Plan do not result in compliance with requirements within one year or when compliance is achieved but not sustained. Corrective Action Plans require frequent review analysis of data by the LITP and quarterly submission of data and analysis to MSDE. MSDE ensures that technical assistance is available to assist LITPs in developing Corrective Action Plans to address compliance issues.

A list of rewards, interventions, and sanctions was submitted with MSDE Improvement Plan.

To date, MSDE has implemented the following interventions:

- MSDE recognition of specific local programs for strengths and best practices during meetings with peers;
- MSDE letters to LITP directors and local lead agency heads;
- Requirement that LITPs submit a signed assurance that continuous services will be available to all eligible children and families;
- Involvement of the Assistant State Superintendent for more significant interagency programmatic issues;
- Requirement that LITPs target funding to correct areas of non-compliance and submit monthly data reports to track progress.

MSDE staff are designated to follow up with LITPs to ensure that interventions and enforcement activities result in improved outcomes, including compliance. MSDE also employs a Technical Assistance Specialist whose role is to provide technical assistance to LITPs identified through monitoring activities as in need of assistance. The MSDE TA Specialist reviews program

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reports for local requests for TA, follows up as appropriate, and coordinates findings with the Professional Development Specialist to identify statewide and regional training needs and ensure they are incorporated into MSDE's CSPD Plan.

## Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

# A. Percent of noncompliance related to monitoring priority areas and indicators corrected within one year of identification:

Priority indicator	a: # of findings as reported in 12/30/04 APR	b. # of corrections completed by 6/30/05	Percent (b/a X 100)
2. Early intervention services in the home or programs for typically developing children or had a justification based on the needs of the child.	2	2	100%
7. 45-day Timeline	14	8	57%
8, Percent of children exiting Part C who had timely transition planning meetings.	15	8	53%

# B. Percent of noncompliance related to areas not included in the priority areas and indicators corrected within one year of identification:

Priority indicator	a: # of findings as reported in 12/30/04 APR	b. # of corrections completed by 6/30/05	Percent (b/a X 100)
All families are afforded	2	2	100%
the opportunity to			
participate in a family-			
directed assessment.			

# C. Percent of noncompliance identified through other mechanisms (complaints, due process hearings, mediations, etc) corrected within one year of identification:

# of agencies in which noncompliance was identified	a. # of findings of noncompliance	b. # of corrections competed no later than one year	Percent (c/b X 100)
1	1	1	100%

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

## A: Percent of noncompliance related to monitoring priority areas and indicators corrected within one year of identification.

All priority indicators (#2,5,6,7, and 8) were previously identified as the State's targeted priorities. Interim 12/30/04 data on progress toward compliance with priority indicators was

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reported in the 2003 APR. Data reported in the SPP is based on correction between 12/30/04 and 6/30/05. A finding of noncompliance is identified when an LITP does not meet the requirement identified in the targeted priority. Each "finding" represents 1 LITP found not in compliance in a given targeted priority. All 24 LITPs have Improvement Plans which address each priority area. LITPs not in compliance or unable to sustain compliance are required to develop and implement a Corrective Action Plan.

Indicator 2. Early intervention services are provided in the home or program for typically developing children: MSDE interprets the natural environments requirements to mean services for a child are provided in the home or other community program for typically developing children or there is a justification based on the needs of the child which describes why the child's outcomes cannot be achieved satisfactorily for the child in a natural environment. MSDE monitors both the setting in which services are provided and the justification when services are not provided in natural environments. The data reported is based on the number of LITPs who are providing services to children primarily in natural environments or have a justification based on the needs of the child and documented on the IFSP when a service will not be provided in natural environments

#### As of 12/30/04.

- 2 LITPs were identified as not providing services primarily in natural environments or documenting a justification based on the needs of the child on the IFSP when services were not provided in natural environments.
- 22 LITPs were providing services primarily in natural environments or documenting a justification on the IFSP when services were not provided in natural environments.

#### As of 6/30/05.

• The 2 LITPs previously not in compliance were corrected.

# Indicator 7: Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within the 45-day timeline.

#### As of 12/30/04:

- 14 LITPs were identified as not in compliance with this requirement.
- 10 LITPs were in compliance with this requirement.

By 12/30/04, MSDE was able to gather data on the number of children for whom the timeline was met and the number who had a late meeting due to family-related reasons. The data was aggregated by LITP taking into consideration both timelines met and timelines missed due to family-related reasons.

- 8 of the 14 LITPs not in compliance were corrected.
- Of the 6 not corrected by 6/30/05:
  - □ 3 LITPs were determined to be working toward improvement with minimum MSDE intervention and achieved compliance between 7/1/05 and 9/30/05.
  - □ 3 LITPs did not achieve compliance and were required to develop a Corrective Action Plan, were identified for focused monitoring, and are provided on-going technical assistance.

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Data was reviewed on the reasons LITPs were not in compliance with the requirement. The primary reason reported for noncompliance was the inability of systems to quickly expand capacity to serve increasing numbers of children.

# Indicator 8: Percent of children exiting Part C who received a timely transition planning meeting.

As of 12/30/04:

- 15 LITPs were identified as not in compliance with the requirement.
- 9 LITPs were in compliance with the requirement.

#### By 6/30/05:

- 8 of the 15 LITPs not in compliance were corrected.
- Of the 7 not corrected:
  - □ 2 LITPs were determined to be working toward improvement with minimum MSDE intervention and achieved compliance by 9/30/05.
  - □ 4 LITPs did not achieve compliance and were required to develop a Corrective Action Plan, were identified for focused monitoring and are provided on-going technical assistance. Two (2) of the four (4) achieved compliance by 10/30/05. A third LITP is demonstrating continued improvement.
  - 1 LITP did not report any children who transitioned between 12/30/04 and 6/30/05.

A review of data indicated the primary reason for noncompliance with the timeline requirement was the unavailability of Part B staff to attend the transition planning meeting. A review of data also indicates that some LITPs are not entering data in a timely manner which impacts MSDE's ability to gather accurate statewide data. Refer to Indicator #8 for additional information and activities to address the issue.

# B. Percent of noncompliance related to areas not included in the priority areas and indicators corrected within one year of identification.

In 2003-2004, MSDE identified 2 LITPs which were not documenting that families were afforded the opportunity to participate in family-directed assessment. Both LITPs were required to address the requirement in the local Improvement Plan,

By 6/30/05, both LITPs had corrected the noncompliance.

# C. Percent of noncompliance identified through other mechanisms (complaints, due process hearings, mediations, etc) corrected within one year of identification.

Ensuring that transition outcomes were included in the IFSP by the child's second birthday, in accordance with MSDE policies.

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In 2003-2004, MSDE identified, through a complaint, one (1) LITP which did not include transition outcome (steps to assist the child and family in a smooth transition from Part C to Part B) in accordance with MSDE policies. MSDE also identified additional transition-related issues through the same complaint, but only one finding was linked to Part C. The remaining findings were linked to Part B and addressed by the local school system.

To address the Part C complaint, the LITP was required to ensure that transition outcomes were included in the IFSP for all children in accordance with MSDE policies. The corrective action was completed within the timelines.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	Maryland's general supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) will identify and correct 100% of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.
2006 (2006-2007)	Maryland's general supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) will identify and correct 100% of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.
2007 (2007-2008)	Maryland's general supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) will identify and correct 100% of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.
2008 (2008-2009)	Maryland's general supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) will identify and correct 100% of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.
2009 (2009-2010)	Maryland's general supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) will identify and correct 100% of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.
2010 (2010-2011)	Maryland's general supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) will identify and correct 100% of noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

#### Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will require LITPs not	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
achieving compliance within		B/C Data System
one year in any of the State's		LITPs
targeted priorities to develop		

## SPP Template - Part C (3)

Maryland State

		Clate
a Corrective Action Plan		
which includes specific		
activities and strategies in		
greater detail than those		
included in the LITP		
Improvement Plan, interim		
benchmarks for moving		
toward compliance, and, at a		
minimum, quarterly reporting		
to MSDE regarding progress		
toward compliance.		
MSDE will employ two	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
additional staff who will assist		B/C Data System
in monitoring Part C and Part		
B preschool programs:		
<ul> <li>Monitor local data</li> </ul>		
• Monitor local Corrective		
Action Plans		
• Assist with the provision		
of technical assistance to		
LITPs/ LSSs based on		
monitoring.		
MSDE will identify the LITPs	2005-2006	MSDE Staff
which are not entering data		B/C Data System
into the data system in a		LITPs
timely manner and require		
them to address the issue in		
local improvement plans.		
MSDE will consider whether		
to set timelines for the timely		
entry of data.		
MSDE will conduct periodic	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
record reviews to validate data		B/C Data System
system data.		
MSDE will use data from the	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
data system to evaluate the		B/C Data System
effectiveness of its SPP		
activities and revise activities		
as needed for all indicators.		

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### Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 10**: Percent of signed written complaints with reports issued that were resolved within 60-day timeline or a timeline extended for exceptional circumstances with respect to a particular complaint.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### **Measurement:**

Percent = (1.1(b) + 1.1(c)) divided by (1.1) times 100.

### Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

In April 2003, the Complaint Investigation Branch within MSDE's Division of Special Education/ Early Intervention Services assumed responsibility for the investigation of Part C complaints with the assistance and support of Part C staff.

Special Education/ Early Intervention Complaint Resolution Procedures for Parts B and C complaints have been widely disseminated may be found on the MSDE web site. Once the regulations implementing IDEA 2004 are finalized, MSDE will review and revise these procedures to ensure they are consistent with federal requirements.

Pursuant to the MSDE procedures, the complaint must be in writing and signed and meet the criteria identified in 34 CFR in order to constitute an IDEA complaint filed with the Department for investigation. In completing IDEA complaint investigations, MSDE utilizes a collaborative approach, consulting with appropriate Department staff and the Office of the Attorney General, as necessary, to ensure consistency in the interpretation of federal and State regulation and policies.

The MSDE has procedures to ensure that alleged violations of IDEA and State special education/ early intervention law are investigated in a thorough manner to identify noncompliance. Complaints are resolved within 60 days of the date that the written complaint is received unless exceptional circumstances exist with respect to a particular complaint. The need for an extension of the timeline is documented in the complaint file and a written explanation is provided in the Letter of Findings.

SPP	<b>Temp</b>	late -	<b>Part</b>	C (	(3)
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Maryland State

The MSDE procedures address the correction of noncompliance identified through complaint investigations. Pursuant to those procedures, all noncompliance identified through the investigation must be remediated and corrected, regardless of whether the original complaint contained an allegation that the particular requirement was not met. The Letter of Findings explicitly states the timeframe in which the corrective actions must be taken to redress the violations for the individual child/ family as well as any systemic corrective action. The timeline for remediating the denial of appropriate services to the individual child/ family is generally 30-60 days, depending on the circumstances and nature of the violation determined.

The Letter of Findings states that technical assistance is available to the parties regarding implementation of the required actions and identifies the name of the MSDE staff person responsible for following up to ensure that required actions are satisfactorily completed in a timely manner. The Letter of Findings states that the public agency is required to provide documentation to MSDE to demonstrate satisfactory completion of the corrective actions. MSDE Part C has designated staff responsible for ensuring completion of the required actions. Responsible staff conduct on-site visits with public agencies and provides technical assistance to public agency staff and complainants to ensure timely and effective implementation of complaint decisions. As part of this process, the individual reviews data concerning violations identified through complaint investigations and due process hearings with public agency staff to determine if there is pattern that suggests systemic noncompliance.

Systemic findings of noncompliance determined through complaint investigations are incorporated into the Part C monitoring process. The number of complaints and the results of the investigations in terms of number of findings was incorporated into the local data profile beginning with 6/30/05 data. The complaint findings are taken into consideration when decisions are made about the level of monitoring of an LITP and degree of MSDE involvement/technical assistance with the LITP. For example, to ensure correction of the non-compliance, one LITP was required to submit revised local policies and procedures and provide training to staff on the policies and procedures, under the supervision of MSDE staff. MSDE provided follow-up with providers and families to ensure correction had occurred.

#### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

Maryland's baseline data for 2004 - 2005: 100% of all complaint investigations were completed within the required timelines.

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

Eight signed written Part C complaints were received during the baseline period, 7/1/04 – 6/30/05. Seven complaints were investigated with reports with findings issued within 60 days. One complainant (#05-103) also filed a due process hearing request. The issues were subsequently resolved through mediation and the request for a due process hearing was withdrawn. MSDE completed its investigation of the complaint that had been held in abeyance and issued the letter of findings within 60 days of notification of the mediation settlement.

No complaints were withdrawn or dismissed. No complaints are pending.

Maryland		
	State	

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	100% of all complaint investigations are completed within the required timelines.
2006 (2006-2007)	100% of all complaint investigations are completed within the required timelines.
2007 (2007-2008)	100% of all complaint investigations are completed within the required timelines.
2008 (2008-2009)	100% of all complaint investigations are completed within the required timelines.
2009 (2009-2010)	100% of all complaint investigations are completed within the required timelines.
2010 (2010-2011)	100% of all complaint investigations are completed within the required timelines.

## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will review and revise its written complaint resolution procedures to ensure consistency with federal regulations.	Within six (6) months from the date that the federal regulations are finalized.	MSDE Staff
MSDE will recruit and retain qualified personnel needed to ensure complaint investigations are conducted within proper timelines. This	2005-2011	MSDE Staff

technical assistance.

State includes ensuring that staff is properly trained and knowledgeable of the requirements of IDEA 2004 and State special education/ early intervention law. MSDE will explore training opportunities and written materials that may be offered by OSEP, CADRE, and the Mid-South Regional Resource Center. 2005-2001 MSDE staff MSDE will continue to incorporate findings from complaints, mediations, and due process hearings into the monitoring process via the local data profiles and

Maryland

SPP Tem	plate -	Part C	(3)
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Maryland		
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## Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 11**: Percent of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests that were fully adjudicated within the applicable timeline.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = (3.2(a) + 3.2(b)) divided by (3.2) times 100.

### Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

Under State law, the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) is responsible to adjudicate all Part C requests for due process hearings. The Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program developed State policies and procedures for impartial child complaint resolution under Part C of IDEA, rather than adopt Part B due process policies and procedures

Under the State's policies and procedures for impartial resolution of Part C individual child complaints (requests for due process hearings) in COMAR 13A.13.01.11B, parents file a written request for a due process hearing with the Maryland State Department of Education, which forwards the request to OAH. OAH is required to conduct due process hearings at a time and place that is reasonably convenient to parents and to mail the written decision to the parties not later than 30 days after the receipt of the parent's complaint.

MSDE works closely with OAH to ensure that Part C policies and procedures are followed when Part C requests for due process hearings are received. Part C issues and information are included in periodic training sessions for administrative law judges (ALJ) and regularly scheduled meetings with OAH administrative staff. OAH documents the federal and State laws and regulations that govern the impartial resolution of individual child complaints, hearing dates, and the reasons for extended timelines in each complaint file and in the written decision issued by the ALJ.

Maryland State

MSDE maintains and reports all data related to the impartial resolution of individual child complaints and integrates issues identified in written decisions into ongoing monitoring of local Infants and Toddlers Programs.

### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

In FFY 04, MSDE received two Part C requests for due process hearings: One was fully adjudicated and one was settled in mediation. The fully adjudicated hearing was resolved within 45 days, the extended timeline agreed to by both parties.

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

MSDE reviewed the written decision issued for the one Part C due process request that was fully adjudicated in FFY04. In the request for a due process hearing, the parent indicated that she was only available to participate in a hearing on Fridays. The OAH file and written decision clearly document that the hearing was scheduled within the 30-day timeline, but that OAH had to cancel all IDEA-related hearings because of inclement weather, and that the hearing was rescheduled for the first available date that the parent was available. The written decision was issued two days before the date agreed on by both parties.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	100% of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests are fully adjudicated within the timeline.
2006 (2006-2007)	100% of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests are fully adjudicated within the timeline.
2007 (2007-2008)	100% of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests are fully adjudicated within the timeline.
2008 (2008-2009)	100% of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests are fully adjudicated within the timeline.
2009 (2009-2010)	100% of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests are fully adjudicated within the timeline.
2010 (2010-2011)	100% of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests are fully adjudicated within the timeline.

SPP Template – Part C (3)	Maryland	
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## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
MSDE will continue to work with	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
the Office of Administrative		OAH Staff
Hearings to ensure that Part C		01111 011111
policies, procedures, and timelines		
are followed when parents file a		
request for due process under Part C		
of IDEA.		

Maryland		
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## Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 12:** Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures are adopted).

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### **Measurement:**

Percent = 3.1(a) divided by (3.1) times 100.

## **Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:**

Not applicable. Maryland's Part C Program does not use Part B due process procedures.

## Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	
2006 (2006-2007)	
2007 (2007-2008)	
2008	

SPP Template – Part C (3)		Maryland	
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(2008-2009)			
2009 (2009-2010)			
2010 (2010-2011)			

Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Maryland		
	State	

## Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 13:** Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = (2.1(a)(i) + 2.1(b)(i)) divided by (2.1) times 100.

## Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

State policies and procedures for mediation as a means of resolving early intervention disputes are established in COMAR 13A.13.01.13. The Office of Administrative Hearings uses trained mediators to conduct mediation sessions with parents and representatives of local Infants and Toddlers Programs. Parents may request mediation when filing a request for a due process hearing or as an informal means of resolving a dispute outside the formal complaint process.

Part C issues and information are included in periodic training sessions for administrative law judges and regularly scheduled meetings with OAH administrative staff. MSDE maintains the files of Part C mediation sessions conducted by OAH.

### Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

In FFY 04, one mediation session was held and resulted in a mediation agreement,

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

The Part C mediation session that was conducted in FFY 04 was requested at the time that the parent submitted a written request for a due process hearing. The mediation agreement included a statement by the parent withdrawing the request for a hearing.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
	No targets are required because baseline data does not include a minimum of

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	State

2005 (2005-2006)	ten mediation requests.
2006 (2006-2007)	
2007 (2007-2008)	
2008 (2008-2009)	
2009 (2009-2010)	
2010 (2010-2011)	

## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

No improvement activities are required because baseline data does not include a minimum of ten mediation requests.

State

### Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) for 2005-2010

**Overview of the State Performance Plan Development:** Refer to the Overview prior to Indicator #1.

(The following items are to be completed for each monitoring priority/indicator.)

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 14:** State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

State reported data, including 618 data, State performance plan, and annual performance reports, are:

- a. Submitted on or before due dates (February 1 for child count, including race and ethnicity, settings and November 1 for exiting, personnel, dispute resolution); and
- b. Accurate (describe mechanisms for ensuring accuracy).

#### Overview of Issue/Description of System or Process:

618 data is collected through the B/C data system. Each LITP enters individualized child data, including referral information and data from the IFSP, into the centralized web-based data system. MSDE can collect referral and IFSP data from the data system at any point in time and can aggregate the data in a variety of ways to generate reports. The data system, when fully operational, will allow tracking and reporting of children throughout their participation in Part C early intervention and Part B special education programs. The system is also being linked to other SEA data systems, reporting the results of State assessments. The data system is available 24 hours a day and is backed-up nightly and replicated in two other locations.

MSDE uses a number of mechanisms to ensure the Part C data is reliable. The data system was built with a mechanism to "catch" data entry errors in order to improve the accuracy of data entry. MSDE runs data reports in multiple formats to ensure consistency of the data in each report. Audit reports have been added to the report menu to enable MSDE and LITPs to verify the presence and accuracy of required data in the system. Audit reports are run periodically and technical assistance is provided to LITPs when the audit reports indicate data is missing or in error. MSDE also includes the requirement that data entry be timely and accurate as part of its monitoring of LITPs.



State

MSDE provided the OSEP Federal Data Tables and Instructions to the data system developers during the design phase of the data system to ensure data is consistent with OSEP instructions. MSDE also periodically compares early intervention records with the data in the data system to ensure the information matches.

In designing the reporting mechanism of the data system, MSDE requested that the aggregate reports needed by the State and LITPs for monitoring and reporting purposes be programmed as Predefined Reports. MSDE generates reports for individual LITP semi-annual data profiles which area issued to LITPs as part of monitoring. Each data profile includes data for a 6 month period and is aligned with the State's targeted priorities.

The MSDE Data Specialist monitors local data entry practices and provides technical assistance to LITPs when data problems arise. Through periodic use of the audit reports, the Data Specialist ensures that the data in the data system are error-free and complete. The audit reports are also run prior to the gathering of data for the 618 federal data tables. LITPs are informed if their data requires correction before the final data run.

MSDE uses 618 data and other local data from the data system as the starting point for monitoring all local programs. Because the data system is live and contains data on all children being served in the State, MSDE can monitor all LITPs on a periodic basis through the data system.

Data on dispute resolution is maintained in a data base by MSDE's Complaints Division. Follow-up and completion of corrective actions which results from complaints findings are documented in the data base.

## Baseline Data for FFY 2004 (2004-2005):

For 2004-2005, 100% of MSDE's State reported data were timely and accurate.

#### **Discussion of Baseline Data:**

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2005 (2005-2006)	100% of State reported data (618, SPP and APR) are timely and accurate.
2006 (2006-2007)	100% of State reported data (618, SPP and APR) are timely and accurate.
2007 (2007-2008)	100% of State reported data (618, SPP and APR) are timely and accurate.

2008 (2008-2009)	100% of State reported data (618, SPP and APR) are timely and accurate.
2009 (2009-2010)	100% of State reported data (618, SPP and APR) are timely and accurate.
2010 (2010-2011)	100% of State reported data (618, SPP and APR) are timely and accurate.

## Improvement Activities/Timelines/Resources:

Improvement Activities	Timelines	Resources
	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
MSDE will continue to		LITP data entry staff
monitor the entry of data by		
LITPs on a periodic basis to		
ensure accuracy and		
completeness of data entry.		
MSDE will continue to	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
communicate with LITP data		LITP data entry staff
entry staff when data entry		
errors are identified and		
provide technical assistance as		
needed.		
MSDE will continue to	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
include accurate and timely		LITPs
data entry in its monitoring of		
LITPs and will require		
corrective action when		
appropriate.		
MSDE will continue to work	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
with the data system		CTE Staff
developers, as needed, to		DataLab Staff
ensure the availability of		
reporting formats necessary		
for federal reporting as well as		
monitoring of local programs.	2005 2011	MCDE CL CC
MSDE will continue to	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
compare data from the data		LITPs
system with individual child		
records to verify the accuracy		
and completeness of the data		

## SPP Template - Part C (3)

State

in the data system.		
MSDE will continue to	2005-2011	MSDE Staff
complete State reported data		B/C Data System
including 618, SPP, and APR		
data in a timely manner.		

SECTION A: Signed, written complaints			
(1) Signed, written complaints total	8		
(1.1) Complaints with reports issued	8		
(a) Reports with findings	8		
(b) Reports within timeline	7		
(c) Reports within extended timelines	1		
(1.2) Complaints withdrawn or dismissed	0		
(1.3) Complaints pending	0		
(a) Complaints pending a due process hearing	0		

SECTION B: Mediation requests		
(2) Mediation requests total	1	
(2.1) Mediations		
(a) Mediations related to due process	1	
(i) Mediation agreements	1	
(b) Mediations not related to due process	0	
(i) Mediation agreements	0	
(2.2) Mediations not held (including pending)	0	

SECTION C: Hearing requests	
(3) Hearing requests total	2
(3.1) Resolution sessions	
(a) Settlement agreements	
(3.2) Hearings (fully adjudicated)	1
(a) Decisions within timeline SELECT timeline used: 30 day	
(b) Decisions within extended timeline	1
(3.3) Resolved without a hearing	1